

NC ECHO  
State Library of North Carolina  
4640 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, NC 27699-4640

Phone: (919) 807-7418

Editor: Kim Cumber

# Newsletter

## Metadata Matters

By Katherine Wisser

It has been an exciting beginning for me as the Metadata Coordinator at NC ECHO! This column of the NC ECHO newsletter is intended to keep the NC ECHO partner institutions up to date with what is happening in the metadata world, both within North Carolina and around the metadata community at large.

One of the real strengths of our statewide project in comparison to others is the strong commitment of staff from our partner institutions. The willingness of folks in North Carolina to give of their time and expertise has made my job easier and more fun! I am thrilled to be working among so many people with diverse experiences and hope to continue to facilitate discussions amongst these groups.

NC ECHO has several very exciting metadata initiatives underway and others that are in the works. For this, the inaugural Metadata Matters column, I thought I would provide descriptions of the metadata groups that are currently underway and some of the things that I have in mind for the next year.

### NCEAD

NCEAD is a consortium for the implementation of Encoded Archival Description (EAD) in North Carolina. The original group consisted of members from the four triangle institutions with support from a grant by the Gladys Knight Delmas Foundation. This initial work created a solid foundation for the implementation of standardizing metadata throughout North Carolina. In 2003, NC



Kathy Wisser, NC ECHO Metadata Coordinator, and Ruth Bryan of Duke University's RBMSC Library teach EAD workshops around the state.

ECHO agreed to take on NCEAD as part of their program, and the working group expanded to include institutions from the east, west and central regions. NCEAD is all the better for it, becoming a truly statewide initiative. Currently we are working on completing the toolkit for EAD 2002, which will be available

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### Special points of interest:

- NC ECHO Digitization Institutes, March 1-5 and March 22-26, 2004
- NC ECHO Project Assistant Hilary Kanupp resigns to take position with North Carolina State Archives (see p.3)

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## Digitization Institutes Scheduled for March 1-5 and March 22-26, 2004

NC ECHO will offer two week-long Digitization Institutes this spring at the Computer Teaching Lab in the State Library of North Carolina in Raleigh! These institutes will focus on building skills necessary to establish a digitization program within a library as well as on the fundamentals of selection, copyright, scanning, and encoding. The institutes are open to individuals in the state who are employed in LSTA-eligible public and academic

libraries and who are intending to participate in or initiate digitization programs in their libraries. NC ECHO will pay for the week of instruction, all instructional materials, accommodations, travel, and meals for all accepted applicants! Information on how to apply to attend one of these institutes can be found on the front page of the NC ECHO site—[www.ncecho.org](http://www.ncecho.org). Interested individuals should consult the NC ECHO website for detailed informa-

tion on the application process and may also contact the NC ECHO staff at (919) 807-7418 with any questions. Preference will be given to applicants who are digitization project managers or leaders in local digitization efforts. Preference will also be given to applicants from institutions that have never sent a staff member to an NC ECHO Digitization Institute. A similar third institute is planned for September.

## Metadata Matters (continued from front page)



Kathy Wisser, NC ECHO Metadata Coordinator, teaches metadata at NC ECHO's third Digitization Institute

*"...Dublin Core will be standard across cultural institutions..."*

for institutions interested in implementing EAD. The Best Practice Guidelines for EAD 2002 have been completed, thanks to inestimable contributions of working group members in examining the new dtd, RLG's interpretations as well as NCEAD's Version 1.0 template. As well, new web pages have been launched for NCEAD

available at <http://www.ncecho.org/ncead/>. For these pages, we are gathering information and documentation on

EAD and on participating institutions. Note that included in those pages are institution descriptions. Please take a few minutes and write up a description of your institution's EAD implementation to help with the dissemination of information!

### NCDC

Following the model of NCEAD, we have created a working group for North Carolina Dublin Core. This group is working on providing best practice guidelines for the implementation of Dublin Core in North Carolina. It is hoped that once these guidelines are complete, the implementation of Dublin Core will be standard across cultural institutions providing a

more robust framework for search and retrieval solutions. In addition, we are working on a web template to assist in the generation of Dublin Core for HTML web pages; these will be ready for launching in March. We are interested in conducting usability tests on this template so if anyone is interested in participating in these tests, please contact me at [katherine.wisser@duke.edu](mailto:katherine.wisser@duke.edu). The more information we have from a variety of diverse institutions, the better equipped we will be to refine the template for the largest audience.

### NCMC Metadata Working Group

ASCWG member Martha Battle Jackson of North Carolina Historic Sites has instigated the formation of a North Carolina Museums Council Metadata Working Group to deal with museum metadata. The objective is to assure that museum metadata solutions are easily integrated into other metadata solutions in NC ECHO. This group has met a few times and is gearing up for another meeting soon to work out the content guidelines before tackling the more sticky technological issues.

### Future metadata initiatives

Other metadata working groups and initiatives in the works include working groups to look at the Text Encoding Initiative (TEI) and Visual Resources description. These groups will probably start work at the beginning of this summer. If you are interested or experienced in either of these areas, please let me know so that we can include you in these working groups!

### "Seek a metadata consultation"

One of the main roles that I play in NC ECHO is to serve as an advisor to you on your metadata problems. On the NC ECHO homepage as well as the metadata initiatives page ([http://www.ncecho.org/metadata\\_contents\\_template.asp](http://www.ncecho.org/metadata_contents_template.asp)) you will see a link to "seek a metadata consultation." This is there for your use and is a direct line to me so that we can talk about your metadata issues, whether those issues are "analog" or "digital."

Most of all, I want to hear from you. What kind of metadata are you working with and what do you see in your metadata future? Where would you like to be with metadata? I am here to help you along the way!

Kathy Wisser



Donna Baker, former NC ECHO Project Librarian, gets into the spirit of NC ECHO's site visit to North Carolina State University, D. H. Hill Library Special Collections

## NC ECHO Says Goodbye to Project Librarian Donna Baker

Donna Baker resigned her position as NC ECHO Project Librarian effective December 31, 2003, in order to take a position closer to her family in Chesapeake, OH. As half of the NC ECHO survey team since January of 2002, Donna logged thousands of miles on the highways and byways of North Carolina, visited hundreds of cultural institutions, provided guidance and assistance to a multitude of special collections professionals, and was integral in facilitating two successful Digitization Institutes, several teacher seminars, and numerous other workshops and meetings. Although these tangible, quantifiable accomplishments are noteworthy, Donna's stay in North Carolina may best be recalled by those with whom she

worked in terms of the intangibles she embodied and shared—her quirky sense of humor, her impossibly accurate knowledge of obscure pop culture trivia, and her contagious enthusiasm. NC ECHO will sorely miss Donna and wishes her well in all future endeavors.

## Spotlight

### Taxidermy Hall of Fame of North Carolina Creation Museum and Antique Tool Museum

Southern Pines, NC  
(Moore County)

Southern Pines, located in North Carolina's beautiful Sandhills, is well known for its horse racing, fox hunting, and golf communities and the many institutions that promote and celebrate this history, but Southern Pines is also home to one of North Carolina's most interesting and most unusual museums—the Taxidermy Hall of Fame of North Carolina Creation Museum and Antique Tool Museum. This museum is tucked away in downtown Southern Pines at 156 NW Broad Street in the Christian Book Store, nestled in the midst of popular shops, cafes, and businesses, a nearly hidden treasure, but one well worth finding.

NC ECHO visited this unique museum in December of 2001. Our host was Ms. Laura Ingram, administrative assistant with Calvary Memorial Church in Southern Pines, who gave us a fabulous personal guided tour of the collections and related the history of the founding of the museum.

It all began when Kent Kelly, a minister with the Calvary Memorial Church, suffered a stroke and could no longer serve actively as pastor of his church. Always an avid collector in numerous fields of interest and a collector and researcher specifically of antique wood-working tools, he began to also increase his interest in taxidermy specimens. As his collections grew, he conceived of the idea to create a museum to share the collections and his Creationist beliefs with the world. Events unfolded allowing him to do just that—the Christian Book Store invited him to use the extra space in their basement and second floor for the museum, the school operated by Calvary Memorial Church supported the establishment of the museum as an educational outlet, and the museum came to life with Mr. Kelly as its chief collector and curator.

The stated purpose of the Taxidermy Hall of Fame of North Carolina Creation Museum and Antique Tool Museum is “to show the creative handiwork of God through the collection, preservation, and creative exhibition of taxidermy specimens of all kinds from all over the world and a wide array of antique carpentry and construction tools and accesso-

ries.” In the museum, visitors can enjoy displays showing possibly the world's largest collection of barbed wire, the biggest collections of diverse and unusual hammers, Disston brand saws, and E. M. Chapin brand levels in the country, a set of prison chains from San Quentin, various bizarre patent inventions that never saw commercial success, and much, much more. In addition, the museum exhibits beautifully mounted taxidermy animal specimens from all over the world. Rounding out the experience are several fascinating interpretive Christian Creationist exhibits.

Expect the unexpected and prepare to be dazzled at the breadth and scope of the collections in this small museum. It is a must-see, unique cultural institution—an engaging alternative to the other more traditional offerings found nearby.

The museum is open most business days 10am until 4pm. Admission is free; donations are appreciated. To visit the Taxidermy Hall of Fame of North Carolina Creation Museum and Antique Tool Museum, just stop by the Christian Book Store, 156 NW Broad St., Southern Pines, NC, (910) 692-3471.

Kim Cumber



Entrance to the museum, 156 NW Broad Street, Southern Pines, NC.



A portion of the barbed wire collection.

## Mark Your Calendars!

February 2, 2004

Due date for applications to attend Digitization Institutes

March 1-5

Digitization Institute  
State Library

March 8-9

Intro to EAD Wkshp  
UNC-CH

March 11-12

SNCA Meeting  
UNC-CH

March 22-26

Digitization Institute  
State Library

**For more information, go to  
[www.ncecho.org](http://www.ncecho.org)**

## NC ECHO Welcomes New Project Assistant

NC ECHO is very sad to say farewell to the incomparable Hilary Kanupp, former NC ECHO Project Assistant, who started a challenging new career at the State

Archives in November. Fortunately NCSU Public History graduate student, Lisa Coombes, was willing to take on the daunting project assistant job beginning in late

December. Lisa brings to this position great enthusiasm and excellent office skills, and NC ECHO looks forward to her contributions to the project in 2004.

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Phone: (919) 807-7418

E-mail: [ncecho@library.dcr.state.nc.us](mailto:ncecho@library.dcr.state.nc.us)

### NC ECHO Staff

Kim Andersen Cumber, Project Archivist  
Lisa Coombes, Project Assistant  
Katherine M. Wisser, Metadata Coordinator

[www.ncecho.org](http://www.ncecho.org)

North Carolina ECHO, *Exploring Cultural Heritage Online*, is the World Wide Web's doorway to the special collections of North Carolina's libraries, archives, museums, and historic sites. Supported with federal Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) funds made possible through a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) administered by the State Library of North Carolina, a division of the Department of Cultural Resources, this innovative project seeks to build a state-wide framework for digitization in order to facilitate comprehensive access to the holdings of North Carolina's cultural institutions.

**NC ECHO Project Vision** – All of North Carolina's cultural institutions work together to make the state's unique cultural and historical resources accessible for the education and enjoyment of people of all ages in the state, the nation, and the world.

**NC ECHO Project Purpose** – The NC ECHO portal provides a single point of entry for the citizens of North Carolina to the unique resources of North Carolina's cultural institutions in order to enhance education and learning.

**Criteria for Inclusion in the NC ECHO project** – Any cultural institution (library, archive, museum, historic site, or organization), which maintains a permanent, non-living collection of unique materials held for research and/or exhibit purposes and open for the use of the public will be surveyed. Denominational/associational collections will be surveyed, but individual church collections will not. Art museums will be surveyed but galleries will not. Zoos, arboreta, and parks will not be surveyed unless as a part of their mission they hold collections as described above.

Through a comprehensive needs assessment and opinion survey, site visits, consultations, workshops, and grant programs, NC ECHO encourages cooperation and collaboration among differing types of cultural institutions and among institutions of varying levels of technological and professional expertise. It is NC ECHO's belief that by working together North Carolina's cultural institutions can achieve greater successes and can do more good than they can by working alone.

## The Access to Special Collections Working Group (ASCWG)—NC ECHO's Advisory Board



Most of the ASCWG at their December 4, 2003, meeting, Perkins Library, Duke University

Back row, l-r: Gerry Solomon, Martha Battle Jackson, Eileen McGrath, Cathy Morris, Druscie Simpson, Hal Keiner, David Smith, Donna Baker, Helen Wykle, Kim Cumber, Kevin Cherry; Front row, l-r: Kathy Wisser, Steve Hensen, David Ferriero, Sandy Cooper

### Chair

David Ferriero, University Librarian and Vice Provost for Library Affairs, Perkins Library, Duke University

### Members

Kevin Cherry, Visiting Lecturer, East Carolina University

Joseph Covington, Director of Education, NC Museum of Art

Martha Battle Jackson, Registrar, North Carolina State Historic Sites

Hal Keiner, University Archivist, Appalachian State University

Eileen McGrath, Collection Management Librarian, North Carolina Collection, Wilson Library, UNC-Ch

Cathy Morris, State Archivist, Division of Archives and History

David A. Smith, Media/Tech Coordinator, North Carolina Center for the Advancement of Teaching

Gerry Solomon, Assistant Section Chief, Evaluation Services, Department of Public Instruction

Helen Wykle, Special Collections, D. H. Ramsey Library, University of North Carolina – Asheville

### Resource Members

Steve Hensen, Director, Planning and Project Development, Rare Book, Manuscript, and Special Collections Library, Duke University

Druscie Simpson, Division of Archives and History, Archives and Records Section

### State Library Staff Members

Sandra Cooper, State Librarian, State Library of North Carolina

Grant Pair, Assistant State Librarian for Information Technologies, State Library of North Carolina